IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : Unassigned (Divisional of 09/775,638)

Applicant : Manfred DOMBEK

Title : METHOD OF AND APPARATUS FOR INCREASING THE

PERMEABILITY OF WRAPPERS OF ROD-SHAPED

ARTICLES

Filed: September 5, 2003

Art Unit : 1731

Examiner : Carlos N. Lopez

Docket No. : 31512-192753

Customer No. : 26694

Date: : September 5, 2003

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Preliminary Amendment

Applicant requests the entry of the following amendment prior to the examination of the above-identified application:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.